



UFO SIGHTINGS BY ASTRONAUTS

Major Gordon Cooper

Major Cooper was one of the original *Mercury* astronauts, and the last American to fly in space alone. On 15 May 1963 he shot into space in a *Mercury* capsule for a 22-orbit journey around the world. During the final orbit, Major Gordon Cooper told the tracking station at Muchea (near Perth, Western Australia) that he could see a glowing, greenish object ahead of him

quickly approaching his capsule. The UFO was real and solid, because it was picked up by Muchea's tracking radar.

Cooper's sighting was reported by the National Broadcast Company which was covering the flight step by step; but when Cooper landed, reporters were told that they would not be allowed to question him about the UFO sighting.

Major Cooper was a firm believer in UFOs. Over ten years earlier, in 1951, he had sighted UFOs while piloting an F-86 Sabre jet over West Germany. They were

metallic, saucer-shaped discs at considerable altitude and could out-maneuvre all the American fighter planes.

Major Cooper also testified before the United Nations: "I believe that these extra-terrestrial vehicles and their crews are visiting this planet from other planets. Most astronauts were reluctant to discuss UFOs... I did have occasion in 1951 to have two days of observation of many flights of them, of different sizes, flying in fighter formation, generally from east to west over Europe."

And according to a

taped interview by J. L. Ferrando, Major Cooper said: "For many years I have lived with a secret, in a secrecy imposed on all specialists in astronautics. I can now reveal that every day, in the USA, our radar instruments capture objects of form and composition unknown to us. And there are thousands of witness reports and a quantity of documents to prove this, but nobody wants to make them public. Why? Because authority is afraid that people may think of God-knows-what kind of horrible invaders. So the password still is: 'We have to avoid panic by all means.'

"I was furthermore a witness to an extraordinary phenomenon, here on this planet Earth. It happened a few months ago in Florida. There I saw with my own eyes a defined area of ground being consumed by flames, with four indentations left by a flying object which had descended in the middle of a field. Beings had left the craft (there were other traces to prove this). They seemed to have studied topography; they had collected soil samples; and, eventually, they returned to where they had come from, disappearing at enormous speed. I happen to know that authority did just about everything to keep this incident from the press and TV, in fear of a panicky reaction from the public."

Ed White and James McDivitt

In June 1965, astronauts Ed White (the first American to walk in space) and James



McDivitt were passing over Hawaii in a *Gemini* spacecraft when they saw a weird-looking metallic object. The UFO had long arms sticking out of it. McDivitt took pictures with a cine-camera. Those pictures have never been released.

James Lovell and Frank Borman

In December 1965, *Gemini* astronauts James Lovell and Frank Borman also saw a UFO during the second orbit of their record-breaking 14-day flight.

Borman reported that he saw an unidentified spacecraft some distance from their capsule. *Gemini* Control at Cape Kennedy told him that he was seeing the final stage of their own Titan booster rocket. Borman confirmed that he could see the booster rocket all right, but that he could also see something completely different.

This communication was reported during James Lovell's flight on *Gemini 7*:

Lovell: "Bogey at 10 o'clock high."

Capcom: "This is Houston. Say again, Seven."

Lovell: "Said we have a bogey at 10 o'clock high."

Capcom: "*Gemini 7*, is that the booster or is that an actual sighting?"

Lovell: "We have several actual sightings."

Capcom: "Estimated distance or size?"

Lovell: "We also have the booster in sight."

Neil Armstrong and "Buzz" Aldrin

According to NASA astronaut Neil Armstrong, the aliens have a base on the Moon and told us in no uncertain terms to get off and stay off the Moon.

According to hitherto-unconfirmed reports, both Neil Armstrong and Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin saw UFOs shortly after that historic landing on the Moon in *Apollo 11* on 21 July 1969. I remember hearing one of the astronauts refer to a "light" in or on a crater during the television transmission, followed by a request from Mission Control for further information. Nothing more was heard.

According to a former NASA employee, Otto Binder, unnamed radio hams with their own VHF receiving facilities that bypassed NASA's broadcasting outlets picked up the following exchange:

NASA: "What's there? Mission Control calling *Apollo 11*."

Apollo 11: "These 'babies' are huge, sir! Enormous! Oh my God! You wouldn't believe it! I'm telling you there are other

spacecraft out there, lined up on the far side of the crater edge! They're on the Moon, watching us!"

A certain professor, who wished to remain anonymous, was engaged in a discussion with Neil Armstrong during a NASA symposium.

Professor: "What really happened out there with *Apollo 11*?"

Armstrong: "It was incredible. Of course, we had always known there was a possibility; the fact is, we were warned off! (by the aliens). There was never any question then of a space station or a Moon city."

Professor: "How do you mean, 'warned off'?"

Armstrong: "I can't go into details, except to say that their ships were far superior to ours, both in size and technology. Boy, were they big—and menacing! No, there is no question of a space station."

Professor: "But NASA had other missions after *Apollo 11*?"

Armstrong: "Naturally, NASA was committed at that time, and couldn't risk panic on Earth. But it really was a quick scoop and back again."

According to a Dr Vladimir Azhazha: "Neil Armstrong relayed the message to Mission Control that two large, mysterious objects were watching them after having landed near the moon module. But this message was never heard by the public—because NASA censored it."

According to a Dr Aleksandr Kasantsev, Buzz Aldrin took colour movie film of the UFOs from inside the module, and continued filming them after he and Armstrong went outside.

Armstrong confirmed that the story was true but refused to go into further detail, beyond admitting that the CIA was behind the cover-up.

Donald Slayton

Donald Slayton, a *Mercury* astronaut, revealed in an interview that he had seen UFOs in 1951: "I was testing a P-51 fighter in Minneapolis when I spotted this object. I was at about 10,000 feet on a nice, bright, sunny afternoon. I

thought the object was a kite, then I realised that no kite is gonna fly that high.

"As I got closer it looked like a weather balloon, grey and about three feet in diameter. But as soon as I got behind the darn thing it didn't look like a balloon anymore. It looked like a saucer, a disc.

"About the same time, I realised that it was suddenly going away from me—and there I was, running at about 300 miles per hour. I tracked it for a little way, and then all of a sudden the damn thing just took off. It pulled about a 45-degree climbing turn, accelerated and just flat disappeared."

NASA Pilot Joseph A. Walker

On 11 May 1962, NASA pilot Joseph Walker said that one of his tasks was to detect UFOs during his X-15 flights. He had filmed five or six UFOs during his record-breaking fifty-mile-high flight in April 1962. It was the second time he had filmed UFOs in flight.

During a lecture at the Second National Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Space Research in Seattle, Washington, he said: "I don't feel like speculating about them. All I know is what appeared on the film which was developed after the flight."

To date, none of those films has been released to the public for viewing.

Major Robert White

On 17 July 1962, Major Robert White reported a UFO during his flight of an X-15. Major White reported: "I have no idea what it could be. It was greyish in colour and about thirty to forty feet away."



THE TWILIGHT ZONE

Then, according to a *Time Magazine* article, Major White exclaimed over the radio: "There **are** things out there! There absolutely are!"

Commander Eugene Cernan

Eugene Cernan was Commander of *Apollo 17*. In a *Los Angeles Times* article in 1973, he said about UFOs: "I've been asked (about UFOs) and I've said publicly I thought they (UFOs) were somebody else, some other civilisation."

NASA's Maurice Chatelain

In 1979, Maurice Chatelain, former Chief of NASA Communications Systems, confirmed that Armstrong had indeed reported seeing two UFOs on the rim of a crater. Chatelain believes that some UFOs may come from our own solar system, specifically Titan. "The encounter was common knowledge in NASA, but nobody has talked about it until now."

"...all *Apollo* and *Gemini* flights were followed, both at a distance and sometimes also quite closely, by space vehicles of extraterrestrial origin—flying saucers, or UFOs, if you want to call them by that name. Every time it occurred, the astronauts informed Mission Control, who then ordered absolute silence.

"I think that Walter Schirra aboard *Mercury 8* was the first of the astronauts to use the code-name *Santa Claus* to indicate the presence of flying saucers next to space capsules. However, his announcements were barely noticed by the general public.

"It was a little different when James Lovell, on board the *Apollo 8* command module, came out from behind the Moon

and said for everybody to hear: 'Please be informed that there is a Santa Claus.' Even though this happened on Christmas Day 1968, many people sensed a hidden meaning in those words."

The rumours persist. NASA may well be a civilian agency, but many of its programs are funded by the defence budget, and most of the astronauts are subject to military security regulations—apart from the fact that the National Security Agency screens all films and probably radio communications as well.

We have the statements by Otto Binder, Dr Garry Henderson and Maurice Chatelain that the astronauts were under strict orders not to discuss their sightings.

And Gordon Cooper has testified to a United Nations committee that one of the astronauts actually witnessed a UFO on the ground.

If there is no secrecy, why has this sighting not been made public?

NASA's Scott Carpenter

"At no time when the astronauts were in space were they alone. There was a constant surveillance by UFOs."

References:

- *Above Top Secret*, by Timothy Good
- *Great Mysteries: UFOs*, by Robert Jackson
- *Genesis Revisited*, by Zecharia Sitchin
- *The UFO Encyclopedia*, by John Spencer

(Source: Leland Lehrman, *The Gate*, New Haven, CT, USA, 10 August 1995; Web page: <http://id.wing.net/~gate/gate.html> Downloaded via Pegasus Networks)

ARGENTINIAN PASSENGER JET IN UFO NEAR-MISS

Most Western newspapers carried scant notice of an event that made big news in South America. The following is a compilation of the various bits and pieces picked up by NEXUS.

Close to midnight on Monday 31st July 1995, the pilot and flight crew of an Aerolineas Argentinas passenger jet observed a luminous object approaching their craft as the jet began its landing approach to Bariloche airport, approx. 870 miles from Buenos Aires.

The brightly lit object approached the jet, flashing and changing colours as it came closer. According to some reports, the pilot, Jorge Polanco, feared a collision and took evasive manoeuvres. The bright object then flew in formation with the plane, at a distance of approx. 100 metres.

Most of the estimated 103 passengers also saw the object, with many describing it as a "spaceship" as big as the aircraft, with multi-coloured flashing lights. Observers in the airport control tower, and military officials including Air Force Major Jorge Oviedo, also saw the object.

As the plane and UFO approached the airport, all electrical power at the airport and in much of the nearby city of San Carlos de Bariloche failed, causing a blackout. With the runway lights out, the pilot of the jet aborted his landing approach and brought the plane around for a second attempt, which succeeded.

Meanwhile, witnesses observed the UFO to climb straight up and out of sight at very high speed.

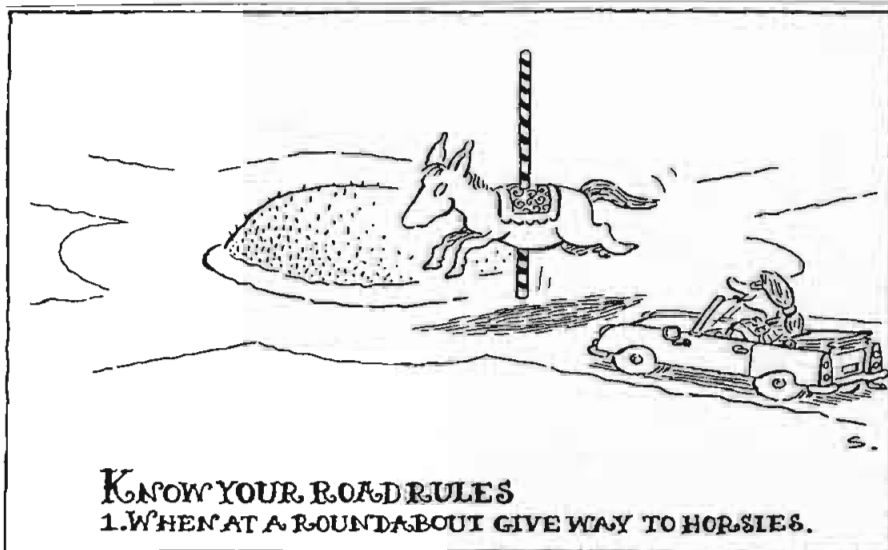
While British and European media gave the story a small mention, Australian and American media did not report it as far as we're aware.

(Sources: *Daily Telegraph* [UK], 3 August 1995; internet newsgroups soc.culture.argentina, alt paranet.ufo)

POWER OF THE HEALING HAND?

A 316-year-old hand, said to have healing powers, has reportedly helped a priest come out of a coma following a severe stroke.

Father Christopher Jenkins was given little hope of recovery—until his colleague, Fr Anthony Tumuelty, brought the relic to his hospital bedside and placed it on Fr Jenkins' head. Within hours, Fr Jenkins was conscious, and it wasn't long before he was talking, eating and walking.



The relic was the left hand of one John Kemble, a 17th century Catholic priest who was hung, drawn and quartered in Hereford, England, in 1679 for being a traitor. A woman is said to have saved his severed left hand after the execution.

Further details about how the Kemble Hand came to be imbued with healing powers have not been provided, but it is understood to be kept in the altar at St Francis Xavier Church, Hereford.

(Source: *Weekly Telegraph* [UK], #210, 26 July - 1 August 1995)

HOLY GRAIL QUEST QUASHED?

The Holy Grail, the legendary cup used by Jesus Christ at the Last Supper, and in which some of Christ's blood was supposedly saved at the Crucifixion, has been found—twice!

The first claim for the elusive Grail cup's appearance was made by psychologist/Arthurian researcher Dr Graham Phillips who claims the five-centimetre-high green onyx chalice was smuggled into Britain before the sacking of Rome, and became the property of a local king, the Bear (whom he identifies as King Arthur), who lived around Shrewsbury.

To cut a long story short, it eventually turned up in an attic junk box in a Victorian house near Coventry. Dr Phillips claims to have enough documentary evidence to support the Grail cup's existence and has produced a book on the subject.

Within a week of Dr Phillips' announcement, the mysterious Order of the Knights Templar announced from its Rome headquarters that it is in possession of the one true Holy Grail—a mottled green glass vase, 9 cm tall, with base circumference of 7 cm.

Mr Rocco Zingaro di San Ferdinando, the Templars' Grand Master in Italy, said, "We have unveiled the true Holy Grail partly in response to last week's false claim that the grail had been found in Britain, and partly because as mankind approaches the year 2000 it is in need of the Grail for its salvation."

He claims that the relic was recovered by Italian academic and Templar, Antonio Ambrosini, from a Coptic monastery in Egypt and given to the order about 20 years ago. While the cup had not been subjected to scientific tests on its age or origin, it is said to have special qualities hidden in its dimensions.

Apparently at least three churches in Europe also claim to house the true grail,

and countless researchers through history have claimed to have discovered the relic.

Whether found or not, the quest will no doubt continue, for the legend seems to have a life of its own.

(Sources: Reuters, *The Weekend Australian*, 19-20 August 1995; *The Sunday Telegraph*, 20 August 1995)

ITALY FLOODED BY WAVE OF WEEPING MADONNAS

For centuries in Italy, cases have been reported of statues miraculously weeping blood or tears. Already this year, an unprecedented 20 such bizarre "weeping statue" incidents have been reported.

To the faithful, these events are interpreted as divine warnings for Italy and the

world to wash its sins away before the end of this millennium. To sceptics, they are a trick; and to cynics, a Vatican plot to win back support for the Christian Democrat Party!

That hasn't stopped the Vatican from setting up a task force of scientists, doctors, psychiatrists and X-ray specialists to investigate some of these claims.

In a strange twist, the tears of blood wept by the 18-inch stone figurine of the Madonna of Medjugorje in Civitavecchia at springtime were found to be human, and male—causing somewhat of a flurry in Church circles.

(Sources: *The European*, 7-13 April 1995; *Weekly Telegraph* [UK], 12-18 July 1995)

ROSWELL ALIEN AUTOPSY REVISITED?

These photographs were published in *Ming Pao* news weekly, issue #1397, August 1995. According to the journalist, the entity shown was found by the US military in Roswell, New Mexico, in 1947. Unlike the "Santilli" footage, the appearance of this entity is consistent with testimonies of various witnesses, and looks a lot more genuine to me.

(Source: Stan Deyo, *WATT's News*, no. 2, September 1995)

